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Networks, Security, and ICT Industry News



[U.S. air safety threatened by possible hacking: senators](#)

Reuters March 2, 2015

Major security vulnerabilities in the Federal Aviation Administration's information systems are putting air traffic control programs, along with plane passengers, at risk, two U.S. senators said in a letter to the transportation secretary on Monday.

[In major goof, Uber stored sensitive database key on public GitHub page](#)

Ars Technica (Blog) March 2, 2015

Uber is trying to force GitHub to disclose the IP address of every person that accessed a webpage connected to a database intrusion that exposed sensitive personal data for 50,000 drivers -- in a court action that revealed that a security key unlocking the database was stored on a publicly accessible place, the online equivalent of stashing a house key under a doormat. Related: [Uber Takes Over 5 Months To Issue Breach Notification](#), Dark Reading (Blog)

[Clapper: Maintaining Phone Call Surveillance is Like Buying Insurance](#)

Nextgov March 2, 2015

James Clapper, the nation's top spy, said keeping logs of U.S. citizens' phone calls is a preventive measure for discerning potential threats.

[Google quietly backs away from encrypting new Lollipop devices by default](#)

Ars Technica (Blog) March 2, 2015

Last year, Google made headlines when it revealed that its next version of Android would require full-disk encryption on all new phones -- but we're starting to see new Lollipop phones from Google's partners, and they aren't encrypted by default, contradicting Google's previous statements.

[Blackphone Announces New Privacy-Oriented Phone and Tablet](#)

New York Times (Blog) March 2, 2015

The phone maker Blackphone and the security communications company Silent Circle, whose partnership created the first privacy-oriented smartphone, announced two new devices at Mobile World Congress here on Monday, along with a suite of software and services intended to lock down both private and work communications.

[Costly shift to new credit cards won't fix security issues](#)

Reuters March 2, 2015

New technology about to be deployed by credit card companies will require U.S. consumers to carry a new kind of card and retailers across the nation to upgrade payment terminals -- but despite a price tag of \$8.65 billion, the shift will address only a narrow range of security issues.

Economy, Competitiveness and Environment



[Nasdaq Math: 5000 Doesn't Equal 2000 \\$](#)

Wall Street Journal March 3, 2015

The Nasdaq hitting 5000 will bring painful memories to mind, but 2015 is vastly different from 2000, in mostly good ways.

Making its first purchase since spinoff, SAIC to buy Scitor for \$790 million

[Washington Post](#) [March 3, 2015](#)

Science Applications International Corp. announced its first acquisition since it was spun off from its namesake parent company, purchasing Reston-based Scitor for \$790 million.

Two Northern Virginia cybersecurity companies become one

[Washington Post](#) [March 3, 2015](#)

Lookingglass Cyber Solutions announced Monday it had acquired CloudShield in all-cash transaction.

HP to Buy Wi-Fi Equipment Maker Aruba Networks for About \$3 Billion

[New York Times](#) [March 3, 2015](#)

Hewlett-Packard agreed on Monday to buy Aruba Networks, a maker of Wi-Fi access equipment for businesses, for about \$3 billion in HP's biggest deal in more than three years.

Google, LinkedIn and other companies propose 6 million square feet of offices for north Mountain View

[San Jose Mercury-News \(CA\)](#) [March 3, 2015](#)

Google, LinkedIn and five real estate developers have submitted plans to build millions of square feet of new offices on the north side of Mountain View that could accommodate 30,000 workers, according to documents made available Monday by city officials.

Obama sharply criticizes China's plans for new technology rules

[Reuters](#) [March 3, 2015](#)

President Barack Obama on Monday sharply criticized China's plans for new rules on U.S. tech companies, urging Beijing to change the policy if it wants to do business with the United States and saying he had raised it with President Xi Jinping.



Government and Technology



Hillary Clinton Used Personal Email Account at State Dept., Possibly Breaking Rules

[New York Times](#) [March 3, 2015](#)

Hillary Rodham Clinton exclusively used a personal email account to conduct government business as secretary of state, State Department officials said, and may have violated federal requirements that officials' correspondence be retained as part of the agency's record.

VA misused \$92.5 million on software, IG says

[FCW](#) [March 2, 2015](#)

The Department of Veterans Affairs broke appropriations law when it billed an administrative account for an IT project designed to pay private sector providers for services provided to VA beneficiaries, according to the VA Office of Inspector General.

DHS names first task order 2 award under CDM

FCW March 2, 2015

The Department of Homeland Security has pushed out its first award under a second task order for its continuous diagnostic and mitigation program -- to Knowledge Consulting Group, which as prime contractor will implement tools and services from three vendors.

Industry dives into NS2020 draft

FCW March 2, 2015

Industry is beginning to digest the 13 documents and several hundred pages of the draft request for proposals for the General Services Administration's next big telecommunications effort.

Pentagon's \$55 billion mystery plane is secret, but debate on cost is appearing

Washington Post March 3, 2015

Given the Pentagon's vast history of cost overruns on major weapons systems, experts worry that even though a contract has yet to be awarded, the Long Range Strike Bomber is already facing the same troubling problems that have plagued other programs.

ULA ready to compete against Elon Musk's space startup, CEO says

Washington Post (Blog) March 2, 2015

Faced with mounting pressure from Elon Musk's SpaceX, the United Launch Alliance's new chief executive said Monday he has been re-configuring the company in order to compete, slashing the cost of national security launches and developing a new launch system.

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